NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

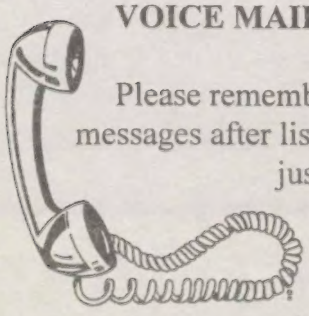
December 20, 1996

HOLIDAY TIME SHEET NOTICE

Attention all staff:

Since the New Year Holiday falls in the middle of the week, we ***must*** have your time sheets on Thursday, December 26, 1996! If you plan to be away during the holidays, please leave your time sheet with a responsible individual from your department or bring it to the Human Resources/Payroll office before you leave to insure you will be paid. It is extremely important that you follow through or you may not get paid! The time sheet we are referring to is for the pay period ending December 27, 1996. If you have any questions, please call **Doris** or **Sandy** (x220 or x289).

VOICE MAIL PROBLEMS?



Please remember to erase your messages after listening. To erase, just press 76. This will help to prevent the voice mail system from crashing. Questions? Call **Pat Phillips** (x216). Happy Holidays!

FACE IT! MASKS IN THE FIELD
Festival -- December 26 - 31

Masked performances and mask-making activities will be featured every day during the festival. If you are in the Museum that week, please come down to Stanley Field Hall for our daily 1:00 p.m. performance, to see the mask displays provided by local artists and galleries, or to join in the masked parade at 2:30 p.m. This is a great time to invite your family to the Museum. If anyone wants to volunteer during his or her lunch hour, please call **Joyce Matuszewich** (x658) or **Rosaura Boone** (x288).

What's playing? On Thursday, December 26, we're featuring an appearance by Spiderman and a performance for kids by Platypus Theater. Gingarte Capoiera, the Brazilian dance group, will take the stage on Friday, December 27. On Saturday, December 28, the Chinese Lion Dancers return -- they were a big hit last year. Ballet Folklorica de los Hermanos Avila will be back with their elegant masks and costumes on December 29. Redmoon Theater, the exciting puppet theater group that won rave review for their "Moby Dick" performance last year, will bring mask-making activitiies and performances with larger-than-life masks to the Field on December 30 and 31.

We do still need some mask-making supplies -- old file folders, *clean* gallon plastic milk or water jugs, plus any weird stuff which can be used for decorating

masks -- buttons, yarn, ribbon, pieces of glittery paper (including used but clean holiday wraps), etc. Please bring to the Education Department. I'm putting a big box in the office opposite our mail slots for contributions. Thanks.

Joyce Matuszewich

ORTHODOX CHOIRS PROVIDE FITTING FINALE FOR *HEAVEN ON EARTH* PROGRAMMING

One-hundred fifty choir members from various Orthodox churches filled Stanley Field Hall with holiday sounds on Sunday, December 15. They sang from the south steps which produced great sound, but made for tricky traffic flow. Over 600 people congregated in Stanley Field Hall and on the balconies to hear the concert. Many then visited the "Heaven on Earth" exhibit. Gordana Trbuhovich of Faith Net, a pan-Orthodox organization, arranged for the choirs as well as other programming related to "Heaven on Earth." We would like to thank her plus all the other Orthodox volunteers who staff the exhibit Saturdays. This kind of community support is most appreciated. Special thanks to Visitors Services, Security, Audio Visual and Housekeeping for making this event flow and for helping us clear the hall for the evening party.

Education Department

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon.

Printed on recycled paper.

MAORI MEMORIAL AT RUATEPUPUKE

Saturday evening, December l4, a Maori Kawa Mate (carry the dead) memorial was held for Noel Hilliard at the Maori House, Ruatepupuke. Noel Hilliard was a New Zealand jounalist and famous author. His novel "Maori Girl" has become a classic. Noel Hilliard was the father of Hinemoa Hilliard, Maori conservator who came from New Zealand to work on restoring and moving Ruatepupuke in 1993. Noel Hilliard's son Howard currently lives in Missouri.

The Kawa Mate began with Leah Piripi (Maori) chanting the Karanga to the spirits of the dead. Maori songs were sung and memorials given by Howard Hilliard (Maori); Houpeke Piripe (Maori, descendant of the House); Mary Ann Bloom, Education Department; Dell Yarnell and Lisa Wagner, Maori House Volunteers.

Twenty New Zealanders living in the midwest came for Noel Hilliard's memorial. We also said farewell to Leah and Houpeke Piripi, who are returning to New Zealand. Appropriately, the guests spent the night in Ruatepupuke.

- Mary Ann Bloom

To all Museum staff:

On behalf of everyone in the Public Services Departments - Audio Visual, Housekekeeping, Security, and Visitor Services - Thank you for your support! We look forward to serving you in the new year. Best wishes for a safe & joyous holiday. Diane White

The Holidays are Coming... and so are the crooks!

It's a time for giving ...and a time for taking -

It's a busy time - but even busier for crooks and conmen!

You're filled with the spirit of Goodwill - but don't let your guard down, when you should be especially alert.

For your own security, and for your family and friends' security, please remember:

- Not all delivery men are what they claim to be. Charitable appeals may not be legitimate. You'll see an increase over the holidays. Some of this is a front for crime, used to get into your home or office.
- Be alert for strangers in your building or work area, especially during the times 30 minutes before work, during lunch, or 30 minutes before and after closing. Crooks look for cover during "people moving" hours.
- Don't leave your wallet or purse out. Lock them in your desk drawer. Don't leave wallets in jackets or coats.
- Don't leave those nice gifts out, or in closets, etc. Lock them in you desk or file cabinet or keep your eye on them at all times until you take them home.
- Don't leave your office unattended. Lock your door, even if you're momentarily absent. Thieves cruise this time of year: they'll steal anything.
- When you place your purchases in your vehicle, lock them in your trunk. In station wagons conceal gifts by covering them - any way to hide them from view.
- If you bring your packages to your vehicle and plan to return to shop, move to another location. Thieves watch for shoppers who bring packages to their cars and return to the store. If you move your car, they'll think you left.
- Keep your ignition key on a separate key ring. Then parking attendants and others can't open your trunk. If your home or office keys are left with strangers during the day, they could be copied and you could be burglarized while you're away.

The Security Services Staff Wishes you

A Safe and Happy Holiday

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

NOON BALLOON

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday, December 17, 1996 was delivered by **Julian Kerbis**, Research Associate, Division of Mammals, Field Museum. Julian discussed the results of his collaborative research with Neil Rettig analyzing Harpy Eagle prey based on the skeletal remains found in their nests in Guyana. In addition to a consideration of the relative abundance of a given prey species, Julian demonstrated the Harpy Eagle has a strong preference for female versus male Cebus monkeys.

Moving to a quite different topic, Julian summarized field work to survey small mammals for the Ugandan Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation.

WILLIAMS COMMENDED FOR VOLUNTEER WORK AT OAK PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Recently Librarian Ben Williams (Library, Special Collections) was commended for his volunteer efforts at the Oak Park Public Library. Ben helped design and install an exhibit entitled Wright and Wasmuth: the heritage in print and drawing. With the assistance of specialists at the Oak Park Library, Ben created special housings, display platforms and labels for the exhibit. Included in the display are some very rare Frank Lloyd Wright materials, such as original drawings and architectural plates, some of which have never before been seen by the public.

CENTER FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND CHANGE

HAAS IN RESIDENCE AT SANTE FE INSTITUTE

While pursuing his field project this past summer, MacArthur Curator **Jonathan Haas** was also in residence at the Santa Fe Institute as part of a working group looking at human societies as complex adaptive systems. The Santa Fe Institute is an independent, interdisciplinary research center that was started by a group of physicists and economists in the 1980s as a place where scholars from widely separate disciplines could come together to explore broadly common patterns in the social, biological and physical worlds. The current emphasis of the Institute is on "complex, adaptive systems" -- systems that change in response to interactions with surrounding environments. Different teams are currently working on a wide diversity of topics ranging from how to model the stock market, adaptive strategies for combating the HIV virus, artificial intelligence, and early childhood development. Haas was the first anthropologist appointed to the faculty at SFI in 1988 (there are about 150 external faculty members from all disciplines). He presently is organizing a conference at SFI to bring together a broad group of historians, international relations scholars, and anthropologists to examine long-term cycles of war and peace in different societies around the world.

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

DILLON AWARDED NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY FUNDING

Curator **Michael Dillon** (Botany) was recently notified by the Committee for Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society that he has been awarded a grant of $15,775 to support the "Floristic Inventory of the Bosque de Protecciòn Alto Mayo." This grant will greatly help with the continued effort to survey this forest, which is an important biological resource and the watershed for one of the Amazon River's major tributaries, the Rìo Mayo. This forest represents a vital link in the hydrological cycle which is being threatened by increasing human pressure and over-exploitation. In addition, a modern survey will allow for direct comparisons with the results obtained by Field Museum botanist, **Llewlyn Williams**, who spent a year (1929-30) collecting plants in that region.

DILLON RETURNS FROM PERU

Curator **Michael Dillon** (Botany) recently completed ten weeks of fieldwork and teaching in Peru. As part of a reciprocal visit in association with The Field Museum's MacArthur Foundation Advanced Training Program, Dillon and former ATP participant, **Pedro Lezama,** conducted a training workshop entitled "Alcances de la Biodiversidad en el Norte de Peru," October 3-6. The workshop was held on the campus of the Universidad Privada Antenor Orrego, Trujillo and was attended by twenty-five biology and ecology professors from six northern Peruvian universities. After the workshop Dillon taught a post-graduate course simply entitled "Biodiversidad" at the Universidad Nacional de La Libertad, Trujillo to a group of Master's students in the program "Administraciòn de Flora y Fauna Silvestre" (October 9-23). On October 24, Dillon continued with the ATP reciprocal visit by traveling to Rioja, San Martìn, in the "selva alta" of eastern Peru with a group of ten professors and students. There, the group conducted field studies in the Bosque de Protecciòn Alto Mayo, a protected tropical rainforest (selva alta) of over 182,000 hectares (ca. 500,000 acres) where Dillon has an ongoing floristic inventory project. While in Rioja, the group also participated in a series of conferences organized by the Universidad Nacional de San Martìn where biodiversity and development were the primary topics. In addition, Dillon was interviewed by radio, television, and print media. After an initial two weeks, half the participants departed, leaving a smaller group to continue with the field-collecting in the forest. The collecting efforts resulted in over 400 collections in sets of seven to twelve duplicates each, mostly of trees, representing over 3,000 individual specimens. Subsequently, Dillon traveled to Cajamarca, where the collections were processed with duplicates divided between various Peruvian institutions and the remainder prepared for shipment to The Field Museum. These collections will be added to the Museum's excellent Peruvian holdings, and duplicates sent to experts for identification. A portion of this material will ultimately be used in the Botany Department's long-term exchange program with other botanical institutions, here and abroad. After returning to Trujillo at the end of the trip, Dillon taught yet another post-graduate course at the Universidad Nacional de La Libertad entitled "Metodològicas de la Sistemàtica y Biogeografìa" (December 2-4).

REYNOLDS MOVES TO DEPAUL

As of December 11, **Pamela Reynolds** has left the Museum's Office of Sponsored Programs to become Development Manager for DePaul University's Egan Urban Center. Pam will be responsible for development and communications for the Center's community based programs. We wish her much success. In the interim, questions concerning Sponsored Programs may be directed to **Lori Breslauer** (Academic Affairs x627).

LECTURE PRESENTED ON ZAIRE'S RAIN FORESTS

The Center for Evolutionary and Environmental Biology presented a lecture last Thursday by John Hart, Senior Research Scientist of the Wildlife Conservation Society (formerly New York Zoological Society). Hart spoke on his recent field work in Zaire's Eastern Rain Forests. He also discussed local conservation efforts to ameliorate the environmental impact of the Rwandan refugees who had taken refuge in Zaire.